Rifampicin as all imports are made after registration of contract with his Ministry which give the import price; and

(f) if so, what was the import price of Rifampicin given in contract in 1987 and 1988?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAI): (a) to (d): The allegation of overinvoicing of imported intermediates of Rifampicin has been referred to the Ministry of Finance for investigation.

(e) to (f) In the current Import and Export Policy (April 1988—March 1991) Rifampicin has been put in Appendix 3, part A i.e. list of Limited Permissible Items.

Leader pack prices of Rifampicin

1384. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the price of Rifampicin based on which the prices of three leader packs of Rifampicin plus INH have been notified in August 1988;

(b) what were the prices at which these three packs were being sold by the different companies before the notified prices and since when they were sold;

(c) what are the number of packs sold by each company at high prices upto August, 1988.

(d) what are the reasons that the concerned companies were not issued show cause notices;

(e) whether his Ministry fixed the prices of other packs of other combinations of Rifampicin;

(f) if so, what are the details thereof;

(g) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has reduced the price of Rifampicin; and

(h) if so, when and what is the present price?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The notified price of Rs. 3000/- Kgs for bulk drug Rifampicin was taken into consideration while notifying the prices referred to in the question.

(b) Various companies are marketing the concerned formulations packs. The details of prices charged by them from time to time are not available.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(e) and (f) The prices of all combination packs of Rifampicin have been fixed under DPCO, 1987.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) A price of Rs. 2500/- kg has been notified for Rifampicin bulk drug under DPCO, 1987 on 28th September, 1988.

Representations for inclusion of drugs under category-II

1385. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3235 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the details of the drugs for which representations were received by his Ministry for inclusion under Category-II.

(b) what are the details of those representations and when was each of them forwarded to Kelkar Committee for consideration;

(c) whether it is a fact that all those drugs are having annual sales turn over of more than Rs. 50 lakhs during 1986;

(d) whether it is also a fact that data in respect to sales turnover has not been provided in the report;

(e) what is the latest position of each representation and whether Kelkar Committee has communicated their views on these representations; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (f) A large number of representations were received against the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee which were forwarded to the Committee. The supplementary report recently submitted by the Committee is under examination.

Drugs for wholesale price index

1386. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3293 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) what was the wholesale price index of medicines in the month of August, 1987 and for the year ending August, 1988;

(b) what are the drugs included in the basket of wholesale price index and what percentage they represent of the total sale of medicines in the country;

(c) whether major consumed drugs like Trimethoprim, Sulphamethoxazole, Ibuprofien, Metronidazole, Ampicillin, Betamethasone, Dexamethasone, Rifampicin, Ethambutol etc. have been included in the basket;

(d) when was the list of drugs in the basket drawn up and how many drugs have become obsolete;

(e) what is the production of each drug during the last three years yearwise;

(f) what are the reasons for noninclusion of essential and major selling drugs in the basket; and

(g) by when the same will be included?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The required details to the extent available are given at statement-I [*see* below].

(b) The required details to the extent available are given at statement-II [*see* below].

(d) The exsting list was drawn in January, 1977.

(e) The required details in the question are quite voluminous and are not readily available. The time and effort required for collection of these will not be commensurate with the result likely to be achieved.

(c), (f) and (g) The selection of the items that figure in the commodity basket of the existing WP I series (base 1970-71) was done by a working group set up for the purpose of revision of WP I series in the office of the Economic Adviser.

Statement-I

Wholesale Price Index (*Base:* 1970-71-100)

Items	August, 87	Average Index during the year ending August 1988
Drugs & Medicines	209.5	245.2
(1) Bulk Drugs	294.8	324.6
(2) Formulations	186.8	224.0